



## *The Old Ironsides Report*

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# Secretary of Defense Visits 1AD

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1AD PAO**

BAGHDAD, Iraq—The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld, U.S. Secretary of Defense, paid a visit to Task Force 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division Iron Soldiers Sept. 6 at Baghdad International Airport.

Rumsfeld made a brief stop at 1AD Headquarters for meetings with the division's leaders before joining more than 120 soldiers for lunch at the Bob Hope Dining Facility. After lunch, Rumsfeld gave a short speech.

"What you folks are doing here is enormously important," he said. "It's important to the people in Iraq, it's important to this region, and it's important to the United States. What you're doing here is truly on the front of the global war on terrorism. Your work is difficult and dangerous. I'm here to thank you."

Several soldiers were also given the opportunity to ask the Secretary of Defense a question. Topics ranged from future deployments to rumors that 1AD was leaving Germany.

"It was such a privilege to ask him a question. I was really honored," said Master Sgt. Janet Newell, the personnel plans and operations noncommissioned officer with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1AD. "I think it really boosts soldier's morale when senior leaders come out to see them."

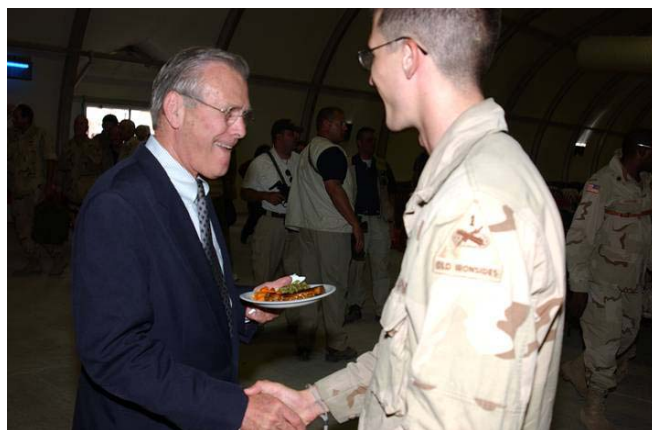
Rumsfeld only had a few hours with 1AD, but he made sure to spend a moment with each soldier that lined up to shake his hand or take a picture with him.

"We have nothing more important or more valuable in the United States than the men and women in uniform," he said.



The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld, U.S. Secretary of Defense, addresses a crowd of Task Force 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division Iron Soldiers at the Bob Hope Dining Facility at Baghdad International Airport. Rumsfeld also answered soldiers' questions during the lunch Sept. 6.

The secretary also took time to talk with and pose for pictures with soldiers during his visit.



## NEWS

### Four Missing As Fabian Pounds Bermuda

HAMILTON, Bermuda (AP) - The most powerful hurricane to hit Bermuda in 50 years pushed away Saturday from the British territory after deadly winds split trees and swept trucks off roads. Four people were missing and feared dead as the storm roared northward into the Atlantic. Meanwhile, Tropical Storm Henri weakened into a tropical depression Saturday - sparing most of Florida the heavy rain the already saturated state had feared - and Tropical Storm Isabel formed about 660 miles west of the Cape Verde Islands.

### Man Killed in Disneyland Coaster Crash

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) - An accident on Disneyland's Big Thunder Mountain Railroad roller coaster left a 22-year-old man dead and 10 other riders injured. The ride's locomotive separated Friday morning from its train inside a tunnel and was slightly derailed, but officials did not know whether that caused the accident or was the result of it.

### Ex-President Bush Marks Aircraft Carrier

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. (AP) - Former President Bush printed his initials in chalk on a metal plate Saturday to literally mark the first milestone in the construction of a \$4 billion aircraft carrier that will bear his name. A welder then etched the initials into the plate with a torch during a ceremony at Northrop Grumman's Newport News shipyard, the nation's only builder of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers.

### Search for Iraq Weapons Proves Elusive

WASHINGTON (AP) - Weapons hunters in Iraq have found what they interpret as evidence of Iraqi preparations to secretly produce chemical and biological weapons, some Pentagon officials say. But as the postwar weapons hunt enters its sixth month, it remains unclear whether they have found - or ever will - any evidence that Iraq had actually made such weapons or whether it simply was prepared to do so.

## SPORTS

### Henin-Hardenne Wins U.S. Open Final

NEW YORK (AP) - Taking full advantage of an error-prone opponent, a resilient Justine Henin-Hardenne hit all the right shots and beat No. 1-ranked Kim Clijsters 7-5, 6-1 Saturday night at the U.S. Open to win her second Grand Slam title of the year. "I've always been a great fighter," Henin-Hardenne said. "I always thought the first win in a Grand Slam would be the most important one, but this is amazing."

## Oddly Enough...

### Pony Spends Night in Denmark Apartment

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) -- Not knowing where to park the pony he bought for his nine-year-old daughter, Palle Brinch brought the animal home for the night to his second-floor apartment in central Denmark. There, Brinch and his daughter showered the Shetland pony in the bathroom and locked it in the kitchen for the evening where the animal turned the place upside down, the *Fyens Stiftstidende* newspaper reported Friday. Brinch who lives in Odense, Denmark's third biggest city, bought the pony for \$133 on Tuesday. Inspired by the Danish children's movie "Gummi Tarzan," which features a pony that lives in an apartment, he took the animal home. On Wednesday night, police rang the door bell after complaints from Brinch's neighbors below that the ceiling was rumbling and the overpowering stench of horse manure. "It had been noisy all night," Brinch was quoted as saying by the newspaper in Odense, 105 miles west of the capital, Copenhagen. Brinch who could not be reached for comment, added that the pony turned the apartment into its own private bathroom, leaving mounds of excrement and pools of urine. "I'll never do it again," he said, adding the horse was now staying in the countryside with his brother-in-law. Police said no charges were filed.

### Chaplain's thought for the day:

#### *Walk of Faith*

We walk by faith, not by sight.

--2 Corinthians 5:7

Constructed to give people the illusion of walking on air, "The Walk of Faith" is a platform of laminated glass at the top of a 385-foot tower in Blackpool, England. An Associated Press photo showed a woman at the edge of the invisible walkway, fists clenched against her face, trying to summon the courage to take a step. She had been told the platform was safe, but she was still afraid. Sometimes we feel that way about our circumstances. Perhaps a serious problem has caused us to question the power and the presence of God. Paul's states, "We walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Cor. 5:7). Our walk of faith can be challenging and sometimes scary. But because God is powerful and present, we can step out in confidence today.

It is better to walk with God by faith than to go alone by sight.

### On This Day in History

**September 7<sup>th</sup> 1977**

In Washington, President Jimmy Carter and Panamanian dictator Omar Torrijos sign a treaty agreeing to transfer control of the Panama Canal from the United States to Panama at the end of the 20th century. The Panama Canal Treaty also authorized the immediate abolishment of the Canal Zone, a 10-mile-wide, 40-mile-long U.S.-controlled area that bisected the Republic of Panama. On the same day, President Carter also signed the Neutrality Treaty with Torrijos, which guaranteed the permanent neutrality of the canal and gave the United States the right to use military force to keep the canal open. This treaty was used as rationale for the 1989 U.S. invasion of Panama. Democratic rule was restored in Panama in the 1990s, and at noon on December 31, 1999, the Panama Canal was peacefully turned over to Panama. Former president Jimmy Carter represented the United States at the ceremony. After exchanging diplomatic notes with Panamanian President Mireya Moscoso, Carter simply told her, "It's yours."